

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-15 SCI-06 NSC-10 HUD-02 HEW-08 INT-08

DODE-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 IO-15 EB-11 NSF-04 DRC-01 AEC-11

AECE-00 COA-02 COME-00 SCEM-02 OIC-04 CG-00 AID-20

OMB-01 EURE-00 /206 W

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P R 121107Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8882

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, NATO, BE

SUBJECT: CCMS BELGIAN PLANS AND VIEWS FOR OCTOBER 23-24 PLENARY

REF: STATE 193107

1. SUMMARY: BELGIANS ARE UNHAPPY WITH APPEARANCE OF FOOTNOTE ON ROAD SAFETY RESOLUTION, FEEL THAT OTHERS WILL BE MOVED TO DISSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM PERCENTAGE GOAL, AND SUGGEST THAT COMPROMISE LANGUAGE BE DEVISED IN ORDER TO OBTAIN NEED FOR FOOTNOTE. BELGIANS BELIEVE HAZARDOUS WASTES PROJECT WILL BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPROVED IN VIEW OF PRIOR FRG CONSULTATIONS IN EC, BUT BELGIAN

PARTICIPATION STILL A QUESTION. BELGIANS WILL NOT OBJECT TO ENERGY PROPOSALS BUT ARE UNLIKELY TO PARTICIPATE. RESPONSE TO BELGIAN REQUEST FOR OIL SPILLS IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING, AND BELGIANS WISH TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF FOLLOW-UP AT PLENARY. MINISTERIAL ATTENDANCE AT PLENARY IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. EMBASSY SUGGESTS UNDER SECRETARY BARNUM ENCOURAGE ROAD SAFETY POLICY OFFICIAL VREBOS TO ATTEND. END SUMMARY.

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR SALMON (FOREIGN OFFICE), COMMANDER RENSON (PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE) AND DE COSTER (ROAD SAFETY PROJECT LEADER) REVEAL FOLLOWING BELGIAN VIEWS AND PLANS FOR FORTHCOMING CCMS PLENARY.

3. ROAD SAFETY RESOLUTION. BELGIANS BELIEVE THAT FOOTNOTE TO ROAD SAFETY RESOLUTION IN WHICH BRITISH, DANES AND NORWEGIANS DISSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM PERCENTAGE GOALS STATED IN PARA 1.B, CONSIDERABLY WEAKENS THE RESOLUTION. RENSON EXPECTS THAT THE DUTCH WILL WANT TO ADD THEIR NAME TO THE FOOTNOTE, AND HE WAS UNABLE TO GUARANTEE THAT BELGIUM WOULD NOT THEN WANT TO FOLLOW SUIT. RENSON FEELS IT WOULD BE GREATLY PREFERABLE TO SEEK COMPROMISE LANGUAGE ON PARA 1.B IN AN EFFORT TO ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE FOOTNOTE, WHICH HE BELIEVES EMASCULATES THE RESOLUTION AND MAKES FOLLOW-UP A HIGHLY DUBIOUS PROPOSITION. RENSON SUGGESTED THAT, RATHER THAN TAMPERING WITH THE 15 PERCENT FIGURE, AN ATTEMPT BE MADE TO STRETCH THE TIME FRAME IN WHICH THIS GOAL WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. (RENSON HAD IN MIND A SIMILAR COMPROMISE THAT WAS MADE ON THE 1970 OIL SPILLS RESOLUTION, EXTENDING FROM 1975 TO THE END OF THE DECADE THE DEADLINE FOR ELIMINATION OF INTENTIONAL SPILLS.) DE COSTER, ON THE OTHER HAND, BELIEVES THE PERCENTAGE FIGURE IS MEANINGLESS, SINCE A PERCENTAGE DECREASE IN THE RATE OF TRAFFIC DEATHS CAN BE "ACHIEVED" THROUGH SIMPLE MANIPULATION OF FIGURES.

4. HAZARDOUS WASTES. RENSON PREDICTED THAT THE GERMAN PROPOSAL FOR A PILOT STUDY ON HAZARDOUS WASTES WILL BE APPROVED NOW THAT THE GERMANS HAVE CONSULTED WITH THEIR PARTNERS IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, WHICH ALSO FORESEES A PROJECT IN THE HAZARDOUS WASTES FIELD. RENSON STRESSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THE PROSPECT FOR AN EC PROJECT SHOULD IN NO WAY PRECLUDE A CCMS STUDY, BUT HEDID NOTE THAT THE SUBJECT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES IS  
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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 SCI-06 NSC-10 OMB-01

HUD-02 HEW-08 INT-08 DODE-00 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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DRC-01 AEC-11 AECE-00 COA-02 COME-00 SCEM-02 OIC-04

CG-00 AID-20 /206 W

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P R 121107Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8883

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PGH 7 LINE 7 FIRST WORD  
EVALUATION VICE AVAILABLE)

HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL ONE POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY (EVEN  
THOUGH THE BELGIANS UNDERSTAND THAT THE GERMAN PROJECT WOULD  
DEAL WITH INDUSTRIAL WASTES AND NOT MUNITIONS DISPOSAL, WHICH  
IS AN ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE TOPIC IN BELGIUM).

5. SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY. BELGIUM WILL POSE NO  
OBJECTION TO CCMS ADOPTION OF PILOT STUDY IN THESE FIELDS,  
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BUT BELGIAN PARTICIPATION EVEN AT THE OBSERVER LEVEL IS UNLIKELY. RENSON EXPLAINED THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR ENERGY IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS (DE SCHRIJVER) IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO PARTICIPATION SINCE HE WANTS TO CONCENTRATE HIS FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IN THE AREA OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. OTHER INTERESTED BELGIAN OFFICIALS BOTH IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS AND ELSEWHERE, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BELGIUM AT LEAST BE PRESENT FOR ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE TWO PILOT STUDIES, AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO OVERCOME DE SCHRIJVER'S OBJECTIONS. RENSON SAID THAT THE ITALIANS AND FRENCH ARE VERY INTERESTED IN THE PROJECTS AND THAT THE DUTCH WILL PROBABLY PLAY AN OBSERVER ROLE.

6. FOLLOW-UP. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE MADE FOUR SUCCESSIVE REQUESTS FOR NATIONAL REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OIL SPILLS RECOMMENDATIONS, THE BELGIANS HAVE RECEIVED CONTRIBUTIONS ONLY FROM THE US, THE FRG AND CANADA. OTHER THAN THESE AND NEGATIVE REPORTS FROM NORWAY AND GREECE, THERE HAS BEEN NO RESPONSE WHATSOEVER. THE BELGIANS WILL OF COURSE MAKE A FOLLOW-UP REPORT BASED ON THE MATERIAL IN HAND, BUT THEY FEEL THAT THE SUBJECT OF FOLLOW-UP ITSELF SHOULD ALSO RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION AT THE PLENARY. IN RENSON'S VIEW, CCMS WILL BE REDUCED TO JUST ANOTHER FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE TO IMPRESS UPON MEMBERS THE NEED FOR ACTIVE FOLLOW-UP TO COMPLETED PILOT STUDIES OR PROJECTS. IN VIEW OF BELGIAN FAILURE TO GET RESPONSES, RENSON BELIEVES THAT FOLLOW-UP SHOULD BE MONITORED BY THE NATO SECRETARIAT AT A HIGH LEVEL AND, IF NECESSARY, OPERATING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE COUNCIL. RENSON SAID THE BELGIANS WOULD WELCOME US SUPPORT BOTH BEFORE AND AT THE PLENARY ON VITAL QUESTION OF FOLLOW-UP.

7. BELGIAN REPORTS. RENSON WILL GIVE A FULL REPORT ON COASTAL WATER POLLUTION, INCLUDING IMCO ACTIVITIES, AND WILL ANSWER SEVERAL QUESTIONS THAT WERE RAISED IN OTTAWA AT THE LAST PLENARY. HE WILL ALSO REPORT ON THE MAY MODELING MEETING FOLLOWING THE GENERAL INLAND WATER REPORT BY THE CANADIANS. HAUSMAN WILL GIVE A STATUS REPORT ON COLLECTION SYSTEMS EVALUATION, TO INCLUDE THE FACT THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT DELAYED FOR LACK OF FUNDS.

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8. THE BELGIANS WOULD ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE SPRING 1974 PLENARY BE HELD ANYWHERE BUT BRUSSELS.

9. THE BELGIAN DELEGATION TO THE PLENARY WILL BE LED BY AMBASSADOR SALMON (FOREIGN OFFICE) AND WILL INCLUDE RENSON (COASTAL AND INLAND WATER POLLUTION), PROFESSOR NIHOUL (COASTAL

WATER POLLUTION), HAUSMAN (URBAN TRANSPORTATION), DE COSTER (ROAD SAFETY), DE SCHOUWER (ADVANCED HEALTH CARE), AND PINET (DISASTER ASSISTANCE). THERE WILL PROBABLY ALSO BE ADDITIONAL ROAD SAFETY AND ADVANCED HEALTH CARE EXPERTS.

10. MINISTERIAL ATTENDANCE. ATTENDANCE BY EITHER DE SAEGER, MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, OR HANIN, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE POLICY, IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. DE SAEGER IS CONCENTRATING ALL HIS EFFORTS ON DOMESTIC ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS AND SHIES AWAY FROM INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS AND DISCUSSIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, HE IS LOATH TO HAVE ANOTHER MINISTER REPRESENTING BELGIUM IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM AND WOULD PARTICULARLY OBJECT TO PARTICIPATION BY HANIN, WITH WHOM HE DOES NOT GET ALONG AT ALL. WE HAVE SENT UNDER SECRETARY BARNUM'S LETTER (STATE 193121) TO MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS ANSEELE UNDER COVER OF A LETTER FROM THE AMBASSADOR AND HAVE NOT YET HAD ANY RESPONSE. WE ARE NEITHER OPTIMISTIC THAT ANSEELE WILL CARE TO ATTEND THE PLENARY NOR CERTAIN THAT DE SAEGER WOULD NOT BLOCK HIS ATTENDANCE. EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE WOULD BE A MUCH BETTER CHANCE OF GETTING SECRETARY GENERAL VREBOS OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS TO ATTEND AND SUGGESTS THAT UNDER SECRETARY BARNUM CONSIDER SENDING A PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS TO VREBOS URGING HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE ROAD SAFETY DISCUSSIONS AT THE PLENARY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 12 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 193107  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <17-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CCMS BELGIAN PLANS AND VIEWS FOR OCTOBER 23-24 PLENARY  
**TAGS:** SENV, BE, NATO  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC BONN COPENHAGEN LONDON OTTAWA PARIS ROME THE HAGUE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005